

## CITY OF SUNNYVALE REPORT Administrative Hearing

March 1, 2006

SUBJECT:

2006-0103 – Application for properties located at 805, 809

**and 815 Van Dyck Court** (near Van Dyck Dr) in an R-2/PD (Low-Medium Density/Planned Development) Zoning

District.

Motion

Use Permit to allow a 12-foot tall fence along the rear

property line of three adjoining parcels.

#### REPORT IN BRIEF

**Existing Site** 

Three duplexes abutting a commercial restaurant

**Conditions** property.

**Surrounding Land Uses** 

North

Crazy Buffet Restaurant

South

**Duplexes** 

East

Apartments

West

Single family homes

**Issues** 

Fence height

**Environmental** 

Status

A Class 3 Categorical Exemption relieves this project from

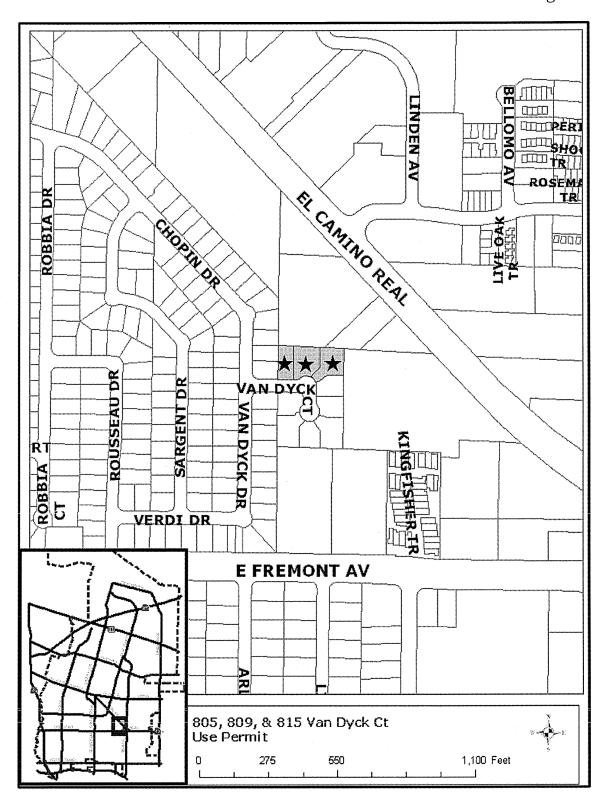
California Environmental Quality Act provisions and City

Guidelines.

Staff

Approve with Conditions

Recommendation



#### **ANALYSIS**

## **Description of Proposed Project**

The proposal is for a masonry wall of up to 12 feet in height between the residential properties and the commercial restaurant to the north.

### **Background**

**Previous Actions on the Site**: The following table summarizes previous planning applications related to the subject site.

File Number	Brief Description	Hearing/Decision	Date
2003-0947	Use Permit for a	ermit for a Planning	
	restaurant in an existing	Commission	
	commercial building	Approved	
2005-0758	Security fences behind	Staff level	08/12/05
	PetSmart and Best Buy	Approved	
	as per Special		
	Development Permit	_ 1	
	conditions		*

#### **Environmental Review**

A Class 3 Categorical Exemption relieves this project from California Environmental Quality Act provisions and City Guidelines. Class 3 Categorical Exemptions include accessory structures such as fences.

## **Use Permit**

**Site Layout:** The rear yards of the residential properties abut the parking lot of the restaurant and there is an existing 6 ft. high wood fence atop a 3 ft. retaining wall. (See Attachment C, Site Plan).

**Fence Design:** The proposed wall height would be up to 12 ft tall, with the design to be determined by the property owners. This flexibility is consistent with what was allowed for the nearby residential properties which abutted the new commercial development of PetSmart and Best Buy. (See Attachment C, Photo of Wall). The final design is subject to review and approval by the Director of Community Development prior to issuance of the building permit (Condition #C).

**Expected Impact on the Surroundings:** The wall be taller than the existing fence and provide more privacy for the residential properties. This height is consistent with nearby properties that abut commercial development.

## Fiscal Impact

No fiscal impacts other than normal fees and taxes are expected.

#### **Public Contact**

Notice of Public Hearing	Staff Report	Agenda
<ul> <li>Published in the <i>Sun</i> newspaper</li> <li>Posted on the site</li> <li>6 notices mailed to property owners and residents adjacent to the project site</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Posted on the City of Sunnyvale's Website</li> <li>Provided at the Reference Section of the City of Sunnyvale's Public Library</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Posted on the City's official notice bulletin board</li> <li>City of Sunnyvale's Website</li> <li>Recorded for SunDial</li> </ul>

#### Conclusion

**Findings and General Plan Goals:** Staff was able to make the required Findings based on the justifications for the Use Permit. Findings and General Plan Goals are located in Attachment A.

**Conditions of Approval:** Conditions of Approval are located in Attachment B.

#### Alternatives

- 1. Approve the Use Permit with attached conditions.
- 2. Approve the Use Permit with modified conditions.
- 3. Deny the Use Permit.

## Recommendation

Alternative 1.

Prepared by:

Kelly Diekmann Project Planner

Reviewed by:

Andrew Miner Principal Planner

## Attachments:

- A. Recommended Findings
- B. Recommended Conditions of Approval
- C. Site Plan and Photo of Proposed Wall Design
- D. Justification from Applicant

## **Recommended Findings - Use Permit**

Goals and Policies that relate to this project are:

**Land Use and Transportation Element Policy N1.4** – *Preserve and enhance the high quality character of residential neighborhoods.* 

- 1. The proposed use attains the objectives and purposes of the General Plan of the City of Sunnyvale as the project provides additional privacy for residential properties.
- 2. The proposed use is desirable, and will not be materially detrimental to the public welfare or injurious to the property, improvements or uses within the immediate vicinity and within the Zoning District because the design is will be attractive and benefit both the residential and commercial properties.

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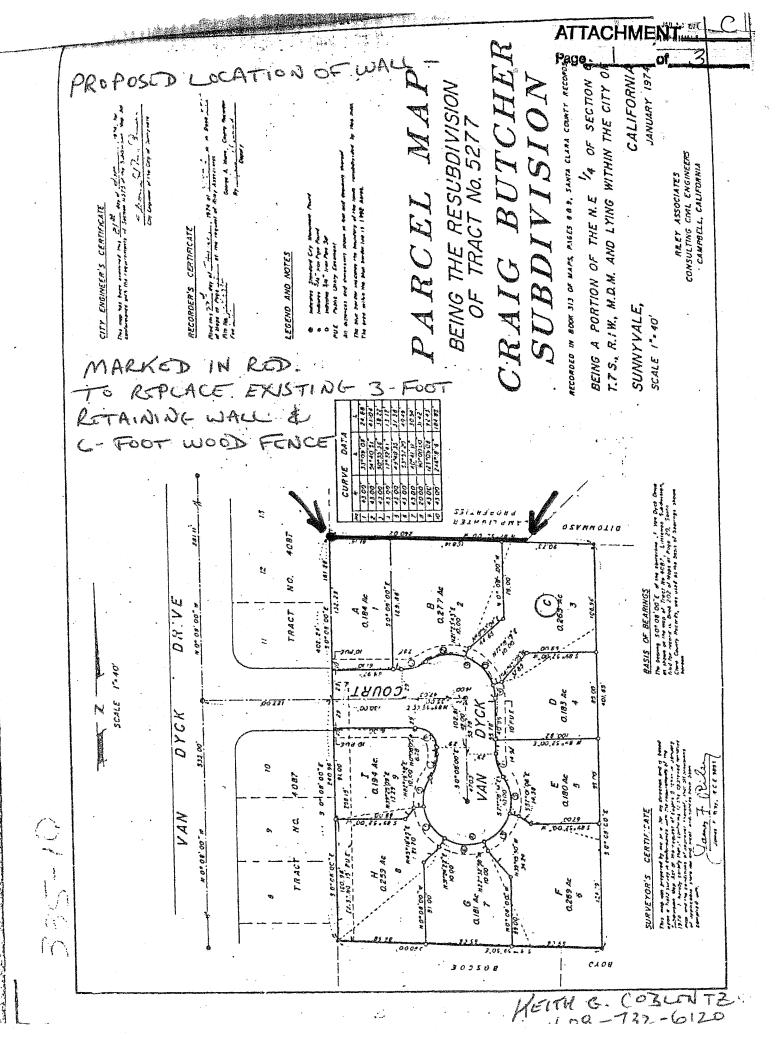
## Recommended Conditions of Approval - Use Permit

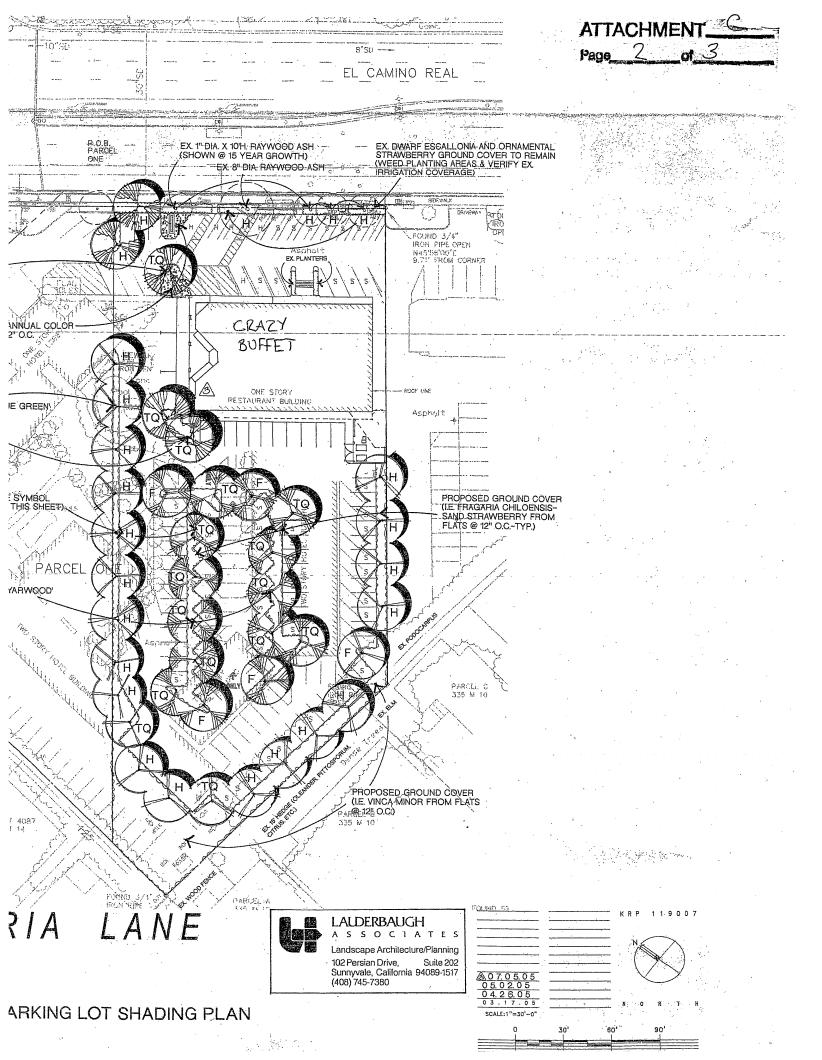
In addition to complying with all applicable City, County, State and Federal Statutes, Codes, Ordinances, Resolutions and Regulations, Permittee expressly accepts and agrees to comply with the following conditions of approval of this Permit:

Unless otherwise noted, all conditions shall be subject to the review of approval of the Director of Community Development.

## 1. GENERAL CONDITIONS

- A. Project shall be in conformance with the plans approved at the public hearing(s). Minor changes may be approved by the Director of Community Development, major changes may be approved at a public hearing.
- B. Obtain Building Permits from the Building Division for the wall.
- C. Final design of the wall shall be subject to review and approval by the Director of Community Development.





PROPOSED
TYPE OF WALL

THE SAME AS
HAS BEEN BULT
BEHIND PETSMART
PROTECTING THE
HOUSES AT REAR

ATTACHMENT C
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# USE PERMIT JUSTIFICATIONS

The Municipal Code states that at least one of the following two justifications must be met before granting the Use Permit. Illustrating how your project meets at least one of the below criteria will assist the City in reviewing your proposal. Use this sheet or a separate sheet of paper to show them the proposed use:

1) attains the objectives and purposes of the General Plan of the City of Sunnyvale,

2) is desirable and not materially detrimental to the public welfare or injurious to the property, improvements or uses within the immediate vicinity and within the zoning district.

A sound wall behind the income properties at 803 through 817 Van Dyck Court, restricting the noise from commercial property being built or planned behind us, and restoring the peace and quiet formerly enjoyed before the demolition of a two-storey motel at our rear, would be not only desirable, especially to us, but would assist in keeping up the value and rental potential of our property, which is now threatened.

The sound wall would also cover up the view of the now-clear El Camino Real, which was formerly blocked by the demolished motel, and it would remove the constant flash-flash-flash of car lights coming to the new parking behind the very popular Crazy Buffet.

My wife and I and two owners on either side of us own the properties named above, and we are all equally affected by this development project. We have not been offered any sound protection, but all other affected owners have been promised a wall, and one such wall has already been built. There would seem to be no room for such discrimination.

If you need assistance in answering either of these justifications, contact the Planning Division staff at the One-Stop Permit Center.

CD 379.1 (2/93) KEITH & COBLENTZ 408-732-6120